

**What is claimed is:**

1. An electronic device comprising:  
a touch responsive display; and  
a graphical user interface (GUI) engine operable to initiate presentation of a GUI on the display, the GUI comprising a first portion presenting a menu-based interface and a second portion having an area for receiving a prescription input comprising a handwritten character.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein the GUI further comprises a virtual keyboard interface.
3. The device of claim 1, wherein the GUI further comprises a “hot list” of medications.
4. The device of claim 1, wherein the GUI further comprises an alphabetical listing of medications.
5. The device of claim 1, wherein the GUI further comprises a listing based on a patient condition.
6. The device of claim 1, wherein the GUI further comprises a sublisting based on drug category.
7. The device of claim 1, further comprising a writing implement.
8. The device of claim 1, further comprising a control element configured to implement a tapered prescription.
9. The device of claim 1, wherein the GUI is configured to provide a list of the at least two medications associated with a given prescription.

10. A prescription system comprising:

a processor;

a database accessible by the processor; and

a storage medium comprising:

instructions operable to direct the processor to access the database and  
to acquire a list of medications;

instructions operable to direct the processor to generate a menu based  
interface based on the list of medications for preparing a  
prescription; and

instructions operable to direct the processor to generate a handwriting  
recognition interface for preparing the prescription.

11. The prescription system of claim 10, further comprising instructions to  
provide a virtual keyboard interface.

12. The prescription system of claim 10, wherein the menu based interface  
includes a "hot list" of medications.

13. The prescription system of claim 10, wherein the menu based interface  
includes an alphabetical listing of medications.

14. The prescription system of claim 10, wherein the menu based interface  
includes a listing based on a patient condition.

15. The prescription system of claim 10, wherein the menu based interface  
includes a sublisting based on drug category.

16. The prescription system of claim 10, wherein at least one of the menu  
based interface and the handwriting recognition interface further comprises a control  
element configured to implement a tapered prescription.

17. The prescription system of claim 10, wherein the prescription includes at least two medications and wherein at least one of the menu based interface and the handwriting recognition interface is configured to provide a list of the at least two medications.

18. A method of preparing a prescription, the method comprising:  
accessing a database to acquire a list of medications;  
generating a menu based interface based on the list of medications for  
preparing a prescription; and  
generating a handwriting recognition interface for preparing the prescription.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising providing a virtual keyboard interface.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein the menu based interface includes a “hot list” of medications.

21. The method of claim 18, wherein the menu based interface includes an alphabetical listing of medications.

22. The method of claim 18, wherein the menu based interface includes a listing based on a patient condition.

23. The method of claim 18, wherein the menu based interface includes a sublisting based on drug category.

24. The method of claim 18, wherein at least one of the menu based interface and the handwriting recognition interface further comprises a control element configured to implement a tapered prescription.

25. The method of claim 18, wherein the prescription includes at least two medications and wherein at least one of the menu based interface and the handwriting recognition interface is configured to provide a list of the at least two medications.

26. The method of claim 18, further comprising accessing at least one user interface device and at least one output system via a network interface.